

Message Text

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S E C R E T NICOSIA 0449

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJ: CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS (SESSION NO. 6), JAN 31, 1975

REF: NICOSIA 0439

1. SUMMARY: AT REQUEST OF UN SYG SPECREP WECKMANN, UN POLAD GORGE BRIEFED DCM ON SUBSTANCE OF SIXTH SESSION OF CLERIDES-DENKTASH TALKS, JANUARY 31. DENKTASH PROPOSED FOREIGN AIRPORT SUPERVISOR NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY INTERNATIONAL AGENCY, EQUAL REPRESENTATION ON AIRPORT BOARD, AND IMPLIED CONTINUED TURK CYPRIOT DEMAND FOR GUARANTOR POWER ROLE IN REOPENED AIRPORT. CLERIDES HELD TO PREVIOUS DEMAND FOR AIRPORT OPERATION UNDER UN UMBRELLA. BOTH HINTED SOME TRADEOFF ON GUARANTOR ROLE AND PERSONNEL PROPORTIONS MAY BE POSSIBLE. DENKTASH PROPOSAL ON USE OF FAMAGUSTA PORT BY GREEK CYPRIOTS REJECTED BY CLERIDES. NO DISCUSSION OF FEDERAL SYSTEM OR BOUNDARIES. NO DISCUSSION OF GREEK CYPRIOT RETURN ATHIENOU AREA. NO PROGRESS IN HUMANITARIAN SUBCOMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

2. NICOSIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. DENKTASH DID THE EXPECTED BY OFFERING AMENDMENT TO HIS EARLIER PROPOSAL FOR AIRPORT MANAGEMENT. HE PROPOSED THAT SUPERVISORY BOARD HAVING EQUAL NUMBER OF GREEK

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CYPRIOTS AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS BE SET UP UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF

NEUTRAL FOREIGN EXPERT CHOSEN BY CLERIDES AND DENKTASH. THIS EXPERT WOULD ACT AS OVERALL MANAGER AND WOULD BE INDEPENDENT OF ANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. HE WOULD BE ASSISTED BY TWO SENIOR MANAGERS, ONE GREEK-CYPRIOT AND ONE TURKISH-CYPRIOT, WITH EQUIVALENT AUTHORITY. IN INITIAL REPLY, CLERIDES REITERATED PREVIOUS VIEW THAT AIRPORT BOARD IS SUPERFLUOUS AND THAT AIRPORT SHOULD BE OPENED PROVISIONALLY UNDER ICAO SUPERVISOR WITH APPROPRIATE ICAO STAFF. IN ANY EVENT, CLERIDES TERMED 50/50 REPRESENTATION ON DENKTASH'S PROPOSED BOARD UNACCEPTABLE. FURTHER, CLERIDES SAID THAT ALL GREEK CYPRIOTS FORMERLY EMPLOYED AT AIRPORT MUST BE RETURNED TO THEIR JOBS TOGETHER WITH "A PROPORTION OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS TO BE RECRUITED". CLERIDES CLOSED INITIAL REPLY WITH RESTATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL CONDITION THAT AIRPORT, IN THIS PROVISIONAL STAGE, MUST OPERATE UNDER UNITED NATIONS UMBRELLA.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION, CLERIDES NOTED THAT DENKTASH SEEMED TO BE CLINGING TO CONDITION THAT GUARANTOR POWERS WOULD HAVE TO PLAY ROLE IN ANY AIRPORT REOPENING. DENKTASH REPLIED THAT QUESTION OF AIRPORT PERSONNEL AND BOARD REPRESENTATION SHOULD NOT PROVE TO BE OBSTACLE AND THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO CHECK QUESTION OF GUARANTORS. PERHAPS SOME MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND. CLERIDES REJOINED WITH OFFER TO BE FLEXIBLE ON ALL ISSUES IF DENKTASH WERE WILLING TO DROP GUARANTOR REFERENCE IN AIRPORT REOPENING PLAN. ONE EXCEPTION, CLERIDES SAID, WAS ESSENTIALITY OF UN UMBRELLA, WHICH HE SAID WAS NON-NEGOTIABLE.

4. WECKMANN PROPOSED THAT AIRPORT BE REPAIRED AT ONCE SO THAT ANY REOPENING COULD BE QUICKLY IMPLEMENTED. CLERIDES BACKED OFF, DECLARING THAT WHILE HE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN IN FAVOR OF IMMEDIATE REPAIR HE MUST NOW CHECK FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTION. DENKTASH SAID ONLY THAT HE WOULD REPLY AT NEXT MEETING.

5. ALL PROPOSALS AND COUNTERPROPOSALS CONCERNING AIRPORT RAISED TODAY WILL BE CONSIDERED BY PARTIES OVER WEEKEND AND DISCUSSED FURTHER ON FEBRUARY 3.

6. FAMAGUSTA PORT. DENKTASH MADE FOLLOWING OFFER: GREEK CYPRIOT SHIPPING WOULD BE PERMITTED TO USE FAMAGUSTA PORT. TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD HANDLE CARGO AND PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO NICOSIA, CHARGING ONLY APPROPRIATE SERVICE FEES. GREEKS COULD HAVE OWN
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AGENTS IN FAMAGUSTA. CUSTOMS DUTY WOULD BE COLLECTED ON GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE OF LINE. THIS OFFER WOULD BE EXTENDED FOR FAMAGUSTA ONLY RPT ONLY IF GREEK CYPRIOTS MADE IDENTICAL PROPOSAL FOR TURKISH CYPRIOT USE OF LIMASSOL PORT. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL, OF COURSE CUSTOMS DUTIES WOULD BE COLLECTED ON TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE OF LINE.

7. CLERIDES DECLINED ADDRESS DENKTASH'S PROPOSAL DIRECTLY.

INSTEAD, HE OBSERVED THAT FAMAGUSTA PORT WAS OF NO INTEREST TO GREEK CYPRIOT SHIPPING SO LONG AS GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE PROHIBITED FROM MOVING BACK INTO FAMAGUSTA NEW CITY (VAROSHA). DISCUSSION OF DENKTASH PROPOSAL STALLED AT THIS POINT. THERE WAS SOME ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION RELATIVE TO MOVING OUT GREEK CYPRIOT GOODS NOW STORED IN FAMAGUSTA WAREHOUSES, AND BOTH SIDES AGREED ATTEMPT MAKE SUITABLE ARRANGEMENT FOR THIS.

8. POWERS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, ETC. DENKTASH SAID FLATLY THAT HE WAS NOT YET READY TO DISCUSS POWERS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN A FEDERAL SYSTEM OR GEOGRAPHIC DEMARCATIONS OF TWO COMMUNITIES. CLERIDES INDICATED (AS HE HAD DURING SESSION NO. 5) THAT HE WAS READY TO MOVE TOWARDS DISCUSSION OF THESE CORE ISSUES. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF DENKTASH'S POSITION, NO DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE.

9. HUMANITARIAN SUB-COMMITTEE. THERE WAS MUCH TALK BUT LITTLE AGREEMENT DURING SIMULTANEOUS MEETING OF HUMANITARIAN SUB-COMMITTEE. GREEK CYPRIOT REP TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS WENT ON AT LENGTH REGARDING SAME PROBLEMS RAISED LAST MEETING, INCLUDING PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURES BEING EXERTED ON GREEK CYPRIOTS IN NORTH TO FORCE THEM MOVE SOUTH. ESSENTIALLY, PAPADOPOULOS MAINTAINED THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD KEEP FREEZE ON MOVEMENT BETWEEN TWO AREAS FOR ALL BUT SUPER-EMERGENCY CASES. PAPADOPOULOS STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS WISHED PARALLEL IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT ON POPULATION MOVEMENT AND THAT AS LONG AS TURKS FAILED TO LIVE UP TO THEIR PART OF THE AGREEMENTS MOVEMENT IN EITHER DIRECTION WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE. DESPITE THIS IMPASSE ON HUMANITARIAN MATTERS SUB-COMMITTEE AGREED TO MAKE ANOTHER TRY AT NEXT MEETING.

10. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF RETURN OF GREEK CYPRIOTS TO ATHIENOU-AKHNA AREA.

11. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO GORGE, PAPADOPOULOS ON ENTERING SUB-SECRET

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COMMITTEE MEETING WAS OVERHEARD TO SAY THAT GREEK SIDE WOULD "ACCEPT NOTHING" THAT DID NOT INCLUDE REFUGEE RETURN TO NEW FAMAGUSTA. THIS WOULD FIT IN WITH WHAT WE HAVE OBSERVED IN RECENT DAYS REGARDING MAKARIOS' INTEREST IN PLAYING OFF U.S. CONGRESS AGAINST EXECUTIVE BRANCH BY REFUSING TO CONSIDER ANY MINOR CONCESSIONS PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 5.
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